

FAO:

Christopher Ward(Licensing)

Gillian Strike (Environmental Health)

29/01/2021

Licensing Hearing dated 9th February 2021- Indigo Bar 1a Fleetwood St PR25 3NL

Ref A: Agenda Item 3

Dear Mr Ward,

Thank you for the Notice of Licensing Hearing dated 26/01/2021 and associated documents.

As a result of reading all the information contained in the documents I am writing to raise a few points which may be relevant to the Hearing.

Clearly there have been negotiations taking place between Licensing, Environmental Health, the Police and Mr Hindle.

As a result of this there is additional information now available which was not available to myself and the residents of Fleetwood St at the time we made our representations.

To that end I hope you will take these points into consideration at the Hearing.

Fleetwood St Entrance

Mr Hindle visited me at my home to discuss the renovations to the Bar and informed me that the Fleetwood St entrance would be redundant as a result of the new entrance being moved to Chapel Brow.

Clearly this has changed and in summary this access will be used by customers as follows:

1. Private Functions until 1930hrs (Ref A Page 17 refers)
2. Mon-Thurs until 2230hrs (Ref A Page 17 refers)

In addition the condition imposed by the Senior Environmental Officer in that Patrons and Staff may not congregate outside the door for any reason.(Ref A Page 17 refers)

This condition is felt to be very beneficial to the residents of Fleetwood St and is fully supported and hope it is included in the terms of the Licence.

Historically this area has been used by smokers either congregating outside the door or in the doorway in inclement weather.

I am however sceptical that this condition will prove difficult to enforce with minimum Staffing weekdays and the removal of Door Staff Friday and Saturdays.

Currently under the Premises Licence (Ref A Page 44 para 16) this area is supposed to be checked regularly by staff and a record maintained of such checks.

As a resident I would not like to engage with customers who were violating the condition by smoking in this area in particular during the week when the door is used for access.

I have noticed there is a conflict in timings between the timings the door can be open (Mon-Thurs) and the proposed Licensing Hours(Mon-Thurs)

1. The entrance must be closed 2230 hrs
2. Proposed Licensing Hours 2345 hrs

How would the customers access and egress if the door is closed at 2230 hrs?

Dispersal Policy

At the request of the Police a Dispersal Policy has been provided.(Ref A Appendix 1 Page 15).

Pivotal to the dispersal of customers(possibly in drink) are the Staff and Door Staff(if they at all were employed)

Is it realistic to assume the bar staff who will be clearing and shutting the premises would not be in a position to usher patrons away from the premises especially on a Friday & Saturday at 0100 hrs.

Further to this it clearly states in the Dispersal Policy that quote : *“Customers will only be able to exit the premises onto Chapel Brow”*. Clearly not Mon-Thurs.

Door Staff

Mr Hindle is requesting the removal of Door Staff(Ref A Page 51 refers).

In all the residents' representations, the need for Door Staff was deemed essential if not critical.

As I am now privy to the Current Premises Licence PREMA0319 (Ref A Background Document Page 44 para 16) I would like to highlight that one of the current conditions is in fact the employment of 2 Licensed Door Supervisors employed from 2000 hrs until 30 mins after closing time on Fri & Sat Nights

With the possibility of the increase Licensing Hours until 0100 hrs and an increase in patrons these staff are essential and must be retained to ensure the dispersal of patrons in the early hours.

Additional Information (Chapel Brow Developments)

You may not be aware but there are 2 proposed developments

1. Lancashire County Council Road Improvement Scheme
2. SRBC Planning Application 7 Chapel Brow

7 Chapel Brow The plan is to build 6 residential flats/apartments in the site of the old TSB Bank.

These will be approximately 20 metres from the entrance to the Inigo Bar(See attached application)

Obviously the impact of patrons passing these residences in the early hours may prove detrimental to the residents.

LCC Road Plan Part of the plan involves siting 2 taxi ranks in proximity to the Flats(See attached Plan).

Patrons queuing for taxis at this point in the early hours could be detrimental to the residents of the flats and other local residents on Chapel Brow..

Summary

I appreciate that some of these points were not in my earlier representation but at the time of writing ,I was not fully aware of all the facts and information.

To that end I hope you will at least take them into consideration them when making your final decision.

I am happy they are distributed to all concerned parties.

I thank you for your assistance in the past.

Kind Regards

Peter Flynn

12 Fleetwood Street

Copy to:

Gillian Strike